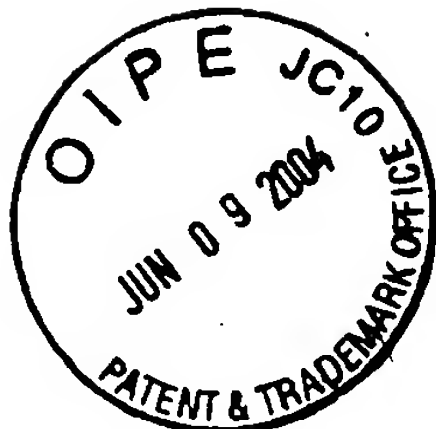


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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 0320-0016 HOOV 116

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven

Serial No.: 10/015,303

Filed: December 12, 2001

Group Art No.: 3739

Examiner: Rosiland S. Rollins

For: TRANSMURAL ABLATION DEVICE
WITH THERMOCOUPLE FOR
MEASURING TISSUE TEMPERATURE

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NAME Renee Barthel

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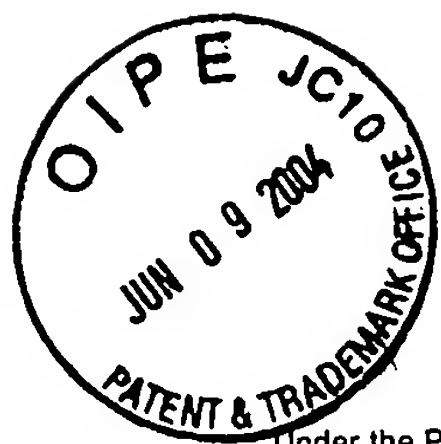
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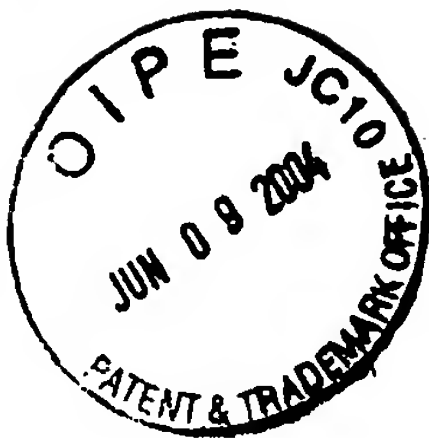
TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/015,303	
	Filing Date	December 12, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven	
	Group Art Unit	3739	
	Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Rollins	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	9	Attorney Docket Number	(HOOV 116) 0320-0016

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Firm or Individual name	Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd. Gary W. McFarron, Esq. (Reg. No. 27,357)
Signature	
Date	June 9, 2004

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NAME Renee Barthel

SIGNATURE Renee Barthel

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

NINTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached form, which the documents may be material to the examination of this application. A copy of each of the documents is enclose herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus or method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of the documents herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the documents

is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of the document discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.


This Information Disclosure Statement is being mailed after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final action or an action that closes prosecution. The cited information was either first called to Applicant's attention in an Office Action dated June 4, 2004 in related Application Number 10/327,831 filed on December 23, 2002 or in an Office Action dated May 21, 2004 in related Application Number 10/015,355 filed on December 12, 2001. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), it is hereby stated: no item of this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the best knowledge of the person signing this certification after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to

filing of this information disclosure statement. Consequently, as provided in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), a fee under §1.17(p) is not required for the filling of this information disclosure. However, if it is determined that an additional fee is required, then authorization is hereby granted to charge Deposit Account 50-1039 any additional fee required.

(A duplicate of this document is enclosed herewith.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 9, 2004

By: 

Gary W. McFarron, Esq.
Registration No. 27,357

Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo,
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200 West Adams St., Suite 2850
Chicago, IL 60606
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Attorneys for Applicant

Complete if Known

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Application Number

10/015.303

Filing Date

December 12, 2001

First Named Inventor

Michael D. Hooven

Art Unit

3739

Examiner Name

Rosiland S. Rollins

Attorney Docket Number

0320-0016 (HOOV 116)

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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